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NEWS RELEASE

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April 9, 1997

MONTANA SUPREME COURT HEARS APPEALS AT UM

MISSOULA --

The Montana Supreme Court will hear arguments in the constitutional challenge of the state's deviant sexual conduct law Friday, April 11, on The University of Montana—Missoula campus. The public hearing begins at 2 p.m. with an overview of the case by Melissa Harrison, associate professor of law at UM. The hearing will be held in the Castles Center in the basement of UM's Law Building. Seating is limited so people interested in attending should arrive early.

The state's high court will hear oral arguments in *Gryczan vs. The State of Montana*, a suit filed in December 1993 challenging the constitutionality of the statute that makes sexual activities between two consenting adults of the same sex a felony. In February 1996 a state district court judge in Helena ruled that the statute was unconstitutional.

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